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A SYSTEM AND METHOD FO EFFICIENT ILLUMINATION IN COLOR
PROJECTION DISPLAYS

RELATED APPLICATIONS

- This application is a continuation application of U.S. Application No.
5 08/443,180 filed on May 17, 1995 which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S.
Application No. 08/330,339 filed October 27, 1994 (abandoned) of the entire teachings
of which are incorporated herein by reference.

ABSTRACT

An illumination system for a color projection display. In one
embodiment a broad spectrum light source illuminates a multilevel
optical phase element which disperses the broad spectrum light from
the light source by diffraction. A display having a number of pixel
elements, each capable of transmitting a predetermined spectral
region, is positioned within the near field region of the multilevel
optical phase element so as to receive the light dispersed by the
multilevel phase element.